



P.I.P.E. LINE

MUFON PUBLIC RELATIONS DIR.
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ISSUE # 26

JANUARY, 1987

NEWS NOTES

Barry Greenwood reports that CAUS has received an interesting set of documents totalling over 143 pages which regard sightings all over the world. Many of these we have not been aware of until now, including one intriguing sighting over Barbados in 1984. Also, the documents include over 90 pages which deal with the United States' attempts to squelch any chance of the United Nations endorsing an international UFO study group at the time that the Prime Minister of Grenada introduced that resolution to the UN. JUST CAUS will be including further information on these pages in an upcoming issue. If you do not subscribe to JUST CAUS, you should seriously consider doing so.

There was a spectacular sighting of a Japan Airliner over Alaska on November 17, 1985. It was reported on the national media just before the end of December. Since the FAA and commercial airline pilots, as well as a planeload of passengers were involved with the sighting, FOIA requests have been filed already by CAUS. It has been reported that Elmendorf AFB in Alaska was closed to the public just after the sighting. One object sighted was described as being as large as two aircraft carriers. When more definitive information becomes available, this would be a good story to utilize in order to obtain national media publicity for the 1987 UFO Symposium in Washington, D.C..

There is some talk that Simon & Schuster, now owners of Prentice-Hall, Inc., will be taking another look at the book, CLEAR INTENT, with the intention of reissuing it and launching a new publicity campaign for the book. Let us hope that this does happen, and that this important landmark in UFO literature gets the public exposure and attention that it deserves. More details when this is definite. It is still in the talk stages at this point.

NEW ADDRESS

Dan Wright has a new address as of Feb. 1:
It is 228 Fairview, Lansing, MI 48912.

HERE'S WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY

1 9 8 7

STATES' NEWS NOTES

Massachusetts MUFON is initiating a new policy of holding membership meetings during every other month, and holding UFO displays in libraries or shopping malls during the interim months. This is an interesting idea, and does seem to be more beneficial than simply holding monthly membership meetings. The UFO displays in malls and libraries should do much toward getting out to the public, and should also result in increasing the membership numbers.

Arizona State Director, Hal Starr, and Maricopa State Section Director, Jim Spiser, have announced that they will host a meeting for all Arizona MUFON members and other interested persons in Phoenix, AZ, on Saturday, January 31. I have been asked to attend and to show the recent videotape which has gone out to encourage attendance at this year's UFO Symposium. This is a refreshing sign to observe one more State organization coming to life. To my knowledge, Arizona has not had an active organization for quite some time. I will do as much as possible to offer support and informative topics for meetings.

Vermont State Director, Bill Chapleau, sent out a novel item in his holiday greetings cards this year. Several State Directors have reported receiving triangular MUFON arm patches with the name of their respective states, in addition to the MUFON insignia. I received two marked Arizona.

Since the Newsletter for January was typed, I received two additional questionnaires from Oklahoma and Nevada. Oklahoma reports that Norma Jean Waller and 3 other persons will attend the '87 Symposium. Oklahoma has 4 members who are active. Norma Jean is in favor of having National UFO Info. Week coincide with the symposium. Jeffrey Neel in Nevada reports that no one from that state will attend the symposium, and he has only 3-5 active members in Nevada. Jeffrey has no preference as to the dates of NNFOIW.

ENCLOSURE

You will be receiving a separate article with this P.I.P.E. Line, and that is a commentary by Jim Melesciuc, concerning contact with the tabloids.

Additional Notes on Tabloid Contact

It is important to note that whether giving an interview to the tabloids or to the New York Times, it is not scientific, nor is it good judgment to discuss extraterrestrials or aliens as though it is factual that they are visiting our planet. This is still speculation at this time, and this sort of statement (as both articles referred to by Jim Melesciuc include) simply serves to detract from our own credibility as well as to further confuse an already misinformed public. Both articles in question refer to these beings almost as though the persons being interviewed were personally acquainted with them. To go even one step further and to offer reasons as to their intentions on earth is even more dangerous and unwise.

In contrast to these articles, another article involving an interview with Budd Hopkins appeared in a Cape Cod newspaper recently. During that interview, Budd said that if the abduction accounts being reported to investigators are depicting real experiences, then this would obviously have enormous implications for mankind. To the converse, Budd also added that if these accounts do not detail real experiences, then their implications for mankind are still tremendous, because this would indicate that our population of human beings is being afflicted by some sort of international psychological problem. It is doubtful if any of us, and certainly not Budd, feels that the latter is the case. However, the important thing to note here is that Budd Hopkins maintained an objective perspective in discussing this topic with the media. He used the word, if and left both possibilities open. He did not speak of extraterrestrial visitors to earth as a fact. Budd Hopkins, perhaps more than any other UFO researcher in the U.S., is certainly our best qualified spokesperson on the abduction topic, and yet, he chose the most conservative method of responding. Budd's objective outlook, and thorough investigative techniques have earned him the high respect of his colleagues and of the media. This is a vitally important point to keep in mind when one is being interviewed by any publication. It goes without saying that if one grants an interview to a tabloid, he or she is then letting himself/herself in for a myriad of other problems, as Jim discusses in his paper, and is thus placing his/her credibility in jeopardy. Need we say any more?

UPDATE ON LIBRARY PROGRAM TO INCREASE JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Recently I sent to Walt Andrus a package of numerous pages listing public libraries and university and college libraries and their addresses. This listing comprises perhaps over 1000 libraries in the U.S.. These will be used in order to send out a packet of information on MUFON, the UFO subject, and the MUFON UFO Journal, in the hope of getting numerous libraries to order subscriptions to the Journal. The packet will include a letter from Walt (compiled for us by Richard Hall), the MUFON information page, a Library Order Form, and a copy of a newspaper article on the Gallup Poll concerning public perception of the UFO subject.

Walt has notified me that Florida will be the first state to receive these packets, since it now has the 4th largest population in the country. The MUFON UFO Journal will be on exhibit at a library conference in Chicago in the middle of this month, and Walt plans to "track" Florida for results. We will keep you posted for any new information on this project.

PIPE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I fully acknowledge that our committee is made up of some of the best talent in the UFO field, as well as the doers in the UFO field. Against my better judgment, and at the costly risk of losing one or some of you, I feel it is only fair to poll our members periodically to see if any of you would prefer to no longer serve on the committee, for any reason. This is not a lifetime assignment, nor does it have any specified tenure. It is up to the members, and I would hate to lose any of you, but I realize that after 3 years, it is possible that someone might prefer to no longer serve. If that is the case with any of you, please notify me at your convenience. Also, if you have any persons whom you would like to recommend to join our committee, please let me know. The committee currently has thirteen members, and it could easily grow to fifteen or sixteen members, and still be workable.

1987 P.I.P.E. AGENDA

If you have any ideas for the 1987 P.I.P.E. Committee agenda for our meeting in D.C., please send them to me. Perhaps you might have some suggestions for projects or for priority items we should discuss or plan to implement in 1987. If so, please let me know, and I will include them on our meeting agenda.

NATIONAL UFO INFORMATION WEEK, 1987

Based upon the responses received so far, I feel that perhaps the best course to take in scheduling this year's NUFOIW is to hold it prior to the the 1987 Symposium, in order to publicize the upcoming symposium at exhibits, programs, lectures, presentations, etc. around the country. What is your feeling on this?